

**CLAIM AMENDMENTS**

Please cancel claims 1-14 as follows:

1. (Cancelled)
2. (Cancelled)
3. (Cancelled)
4. (Cancelled)
5. (Cancelled)
6. (Cancelled)
7. (Cancelled)
8. (Cancelled)
9. (Cancelled)
10. (Cancelled)
11. (Cancelled)
12. (Cancelled)
13. (Cancelled)

15. (Original) A method of processing negotiable economic credits through a hand held device, said method comprising the step of:

transferring at least one negotiable economic credit to a retail enterprise through a network for use at a point of sale on behalf of a credit redemption request via a hand held device;

redeeming said at least one negotiable economic credit at said point of sale, in response to transferring said at least one negotiable economic credit to said point of sale from said hand held device;

transferring at least one updated negotiable economic credit from said point of sale from said retail enterprise to said hand held device in response to redeeming said at least one negotiable economic credit at said point of sale; and

thereafter storing said at least one updated negotiable economic credit in a memory of said hand held device for use in thereafter redeeming said at least one updated negotiable economic credit at a point of sale, in response to transferring said at least one negotiable economic credit to said point of sale from said hand held device

16. (Original) The method of claim 15 further comprising the steps of:  
storing a user profile in a database within said hand held device; and  
updating said user profile in response to redeeming said at least one negotiable economic credit at said point of sale.

17. (Original) The method of claim 15 wherein said point of sale comprises a retail checkout station located at said retail enterprise, wherein said retail checkout station communicates with said network via wireless and wireless communications.

18. (Original) The method of claim 15 further comprising the step of:  
configuring said point of sale to communicate with a network server associated with said network; and  
storing a security module within a memory location of said server for authenticating said at least one negotiable economic credit transferred from said hand held device to said point of sale.

19. (Original) The method of claim 18 further comprising the step of:

authenticating said at least one negotiable economic credit utilizing said security module, in response to transferring said at least one negotiable economic credit to said point of sale from said hand held device and prior to redeeming said at least one negotiable economic credit at said point of sale, in response to transferring.

20. (Original) The method of claim 19 wherein the step of authenticating said at least one negotiable economic credit utilizing said security module, further comprises the step of:

Identifying a user profile associated with said hand held device, wherein said user profile is stored in a database within said server; and

verifying said user profile in order to authenticate said at least one negotiable economic credit utilizing said security module.